

#### REMARKS

In the outstanding official action, claims 1-3 and 9-13 (including all of the independent claims) were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Kocher et al, with dependent claims 4-8 being rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kocher in view of Oguro, all for the reasons of record.

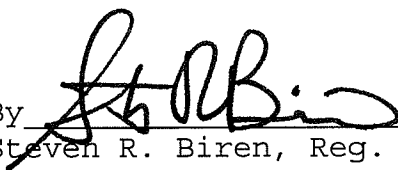
In response, it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims, and in particular independent claims 1, 11 and 12, contain subject matter which is not disclosed in Kocher, thereby overcoming the anticipation rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 11 and 12, as well as the remaining dependent claims, are now in condition for allowance for the reasons as more particularly enumerated below.

With regard to independent claim 1, there is recited, *inter alia*, a region code storage means for storing a device region code and device key storage means for storing a device key, with the device key being different for all regions. Although it is suggested in the Action that the Kocher reference discloses these recitations, the specific portions of the Kocher patent that were cited to support this argument have been reviewed, and they do not appear to support this contention. Thus, while the specifically-cited portions of the reference disclose the use of a device key, there does not appear to be any teaching directed to region code

storage means for storing a device region code or device key  
storage means for storing a device key, with the device key  
specifically being different for all regions. Similarly, with  
respect to claims 11 and 12, the cited portions of the Kocher  
reference do not appear to support a teaching of a record carrier  
storing a carrier region code indicating in which region the  
contact shall be allowed to be reproduced, and encrypted region key  
and an encrypted key which is decrypted using a device key when the  
carrier region code matches the device region code.

In view of the foregoing arguments, it is respectfully  
submitted that the currently-pending claims are not anticipated by  
Kocher, and that allowance of the instant application is therefore  
respectfully submitted to be justified at the present time, and  
favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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